

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEL AV 00659 01 OF 02 051204Z

45

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SAM-01 PM-07

NSC-10 SS-20 DRC-01 /121 W
----- 066058

P R 051111Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1383

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 TEL AVIV 0659

USIAC

USINFOR FOR IOP/M, IPS, IBS, INE

BEIRUT FOR VOA AND RAPA

ROME FOR VOA

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E O 11652: N/A

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION - PRESS REVIEW FEB 5 (23/74)

SUMMARY: US EFFORTS TO PROMOTE ISRAELI-SYRIAN
NEGOTIATIONS, AN ISRAELI PLAN FOR TROOP SEPARATION
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TEL AV 00659 01 OF 02 051204Z

IN NORTH AND INTENSIFIED SYRIAN CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS

ARE FOCAL PRESS ITEMS. DAVAR (ESHED) SAYS ISRAEL REJECTS US PROPOSAL THAT SYRIA FIRST PUBLISH NUMBER OF POWS, THEN NAMES AND ONLY THEREAFTER PERMITS ICRC VISITS. HAARETZ REPORTS: (A) ISRAELI PROPOSAL CALLS FOR IDF WITHDRAWAL 2-5 KILOMETERS INSIDE GOLAN HEIGHTS; AND (B) GOI WILL SOON APPROVE DEFMIN DAYAN'S TRIP TO US EARLY MARCH. SAME NEWSPAPER CITES ISRAELI OFFICIALS AS SAYING ISRAEL WILL FIRMLY DEMAND THAT EGYPT DISMANTLE ALL MISSILE BATTERIES INCLUDING EMPTY SITES IN ACCORDANCE WITH DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT. PRESIDENT NIXON'S BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR FISCAL 1975 RECEIVES WIDE PRESS COVERAGE. DAVAR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT SAYS ISRAEL HAS REQUESTED US ADMINISTRATION TO EXPLAIN SIGNIFICANCE OF FEDERAL BUDGET ALLOCATIONS DEALING WITH ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL. GROMYKO'S TALKS IN WASHINGTON FIGURE PROMINENTLY IN AL MEDIA. DAVAR (NEUMAN) BELIEVES BREZHNEV SENT GROMYKO TO WASHINGTON IN A LAST ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE FATE OF DENTENTE. END SUMMARY.

ISRAELI-SYRIAN TROOP SEPARATION

(A) DAVAR (ESHED) REPORTS: "ALL SIGNS INDICATE THAT ISRAEL IS NOT READY TO ACCEPT THE US PROPOSAL... SUGGESTING THAT SYRIA FIRST PUBLISH THE NUMBER OF ISRAELI POWS (ALIVE), THEN THEIR NAMES AND ONLY THEREAFTER PERMITS VISITS FROM ICRC... THE FIRST STAGE TO BE CARRIED OUT SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE START OF DISCUSSIONS ON PRACTICAL TROOP SEPARATION PROPOSALS... THE OTHER STAGES TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS... ISRAEL REJECTS THIS BECAUSE IT DOES NOT WANT SYRIA TO RETAIN THE POWS AS A BARGAINING CARD THROUGHOUT THE NEGOTIATIONS..."

(B) HAARETZ (GOLAN) REPORTS: "THE ISRAELI PROPOSAL CALLS FOR AN IDF WITHDRAWAL OF 2-5 KILOMETERS INSIDE THE GOLAN HEIGHTS. THE PLAN HAS NOT YET BEEN SUBMITTED OFFICIALLY... BUT HAS BEEN PREPARED IN THE EVENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH SYRIA PROCEED. ISRAEL STILL MAINTAINS THAT NO NEGOTIATIONS WILL START BEFORE SYRIA SUBMITS A LIST OF POWS. ACCORDING TO THE ISRAELI PLAN, THE PURPLE LINE WILL BECOME THE LINE THAT SEPARATES SYRIAN AND ISRAELI FORCES. UNEF WILL BE DEPLOYED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 TEL AV 00659 01 OF 02 051204Z

ALONG THIS LINE AND DILUTED ISRAELI AND SYRIAN FORCES WILL BE STATIONED (EACH ON ITS SIDE) OF THE LINE. IT HAS BEEN LEARNED THAT DEFMIN DAYAN MIGHT GO TO THE US IN EARLY MARCH... IT SEEMS THAT THE GOI WILL SOON APPROVE HIS TRIP. DAYAN IS GOING AS A GUEST OF THE BONDS DRIVE BUT IT IS PRESUMED THAT HE WILL MEET THERE WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER AND SCHLESINGER. THERE IS ALSO A POSSIBILITY THAT FONMIN EBAN WILL GO TO WASHINGTON EARLY MARCH, PER DR.

KISSINGER'S INVITATION."

(C) HAARETZ MILITARY WRITERS REPORTS: "ISRAEL IS READY TO HAVE UN FORCES DEPLOYED ALONG THE CEASEFIRE LINE IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS AS WELL AS IN AREAS OUTSIDE THE SALIENT CONQUERED BY THE IDF IN THE OCTOBER WAR-- THAT IS WAS LEARNED FROM INTERNAL DEBATES ON TROOP SEPARATION PROPOSALS... ISRAEL IS READY TO CREATE A BUFFER ZONE IN THE SALIENT... AS WELL AS ALONG THE CEASEFIRE LINE SOUTH OF THE SALIENT AND UP TO THE INTERSECTION OF THE SYRIAN-JORDANIAN BORDER. REGARDING MT HERMON, MRS MEIR HAS ALREADY STATED THAT THE TWO SYRIAN OUTPOSTS CAPTURED BY THE IDF (OCT) COULD BE HANDED OVER TO THE UN... MILITARY OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, INDICATE THAT THESE TWO POSITIONS ARE VITAL FOR ISRAEL TO DEFEND THE HERMON."

(D) MAARIV (HARIF) REPORTS: "PRIME MEIR HELD TELEPHONE CONSULTATIONS WITH CABINET MEMBERS ON TROOP SEPARATION WITH SYRIA... THE GIST OF HER CONSULTATIONS PRESUMABLY FOCUSED ON THE QUESTION WHETHER OR NOT ISRAEL SHOULD RESPOND TO REPEATED US REQUESTS... TO AGREE TO NEGOTIATE WITH SYRIA WITHOUT PRECONDITIONING THE START OF NEGOTIATIONS ON RECEIPT OF POW LIST... (SO FAR) GOI HAS NOT DEVIATED FROM ITS ORIGINAL RESOLUTION ON THE SUBJECT..."

(E) SYRIAN CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS RECEIVE HEAVY COMMENTARIES. HAARETZ REMARKS: "FIRE INCIDENTS (IN THE NORTHERN FRONT) WILL NOT INFLUENCE GOI(S) POSITION. IF SYRIA IS CONTEMPLATING A 'WAR OF ATTRITION', IT MIGHT FIND OUT THAT THIS WILL HURT SYRIA NO LESS AND PERHAPS EVEN MORE THAN ISRAEL. BY BOYCOTTING GENEVA, THE SYRIAN GOVT GOT ITSELF INTO A MESS... THE IDF FORCES SHOULD NOT PAY THE PRICE FOR THIS MESS..."

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEL AV 00659 02 OF 02 051222Z

45

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SAM-01 PM-07

NSC-10 SS-20 DRC-01 /121 W

----- 066218

P R 051111Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1384
INFO USINT ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
USINT CAIRO
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 TEL AVIV 0659

USIAC

ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN BALANCE OF FORCES

HAARETZ (MARCUS) OUTLINES ELEMENTS WHICH HELPED ARABS TO NEUTRALIZE IDF'S DETERRENT POWER. HE URGES ISRAEL TO FIND APPROPRIATE MEANS TO RESTORE ITS POWER, WITHOUT WHICH, MARCUS BELIEVES, ARAB COUNTRIES WILL BE PROMPTED TO USE THEIR ENORMOUS MILITARY MACHINE AGAINST ISRAEL. RECALLING UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT ISRAEL HAS NUCLEAR CAPABILITY, MARCUS PROCEEDS: "SOONER OR LATER WE MIGHT REACH A STAGE WHERE IT WILL NOT
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TEL AV 00659 02 OF 02 051222Z

BE WORTHWHILE TO PRESS THE WAR BUTTONS. A SITUATION IS DEVELOPING BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT... SIMILAR TO THAT EXISTING BETWEEN THE SUPERPOWERS (I.E. A NEED TO CO-EXIST IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT WAR IS AN ACT OF INSANITY) ACCUMULATION OF WAR MACHINERY (IN ISRAEL AND EGYPT) IS APPROACHING THE LINE BEYOND WHICH THERE WILL BE NO SENSE IN WARFARE... SADAT HIMSELF REFERRED TO ISRAEL'S NUCLEAR CAPABILITY... THEREFORE HIS RECENT STATEMENT THAT THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY TO SEEK A MILITARY SOLUTION IN THE REGION IS SIGNIFICANT..."

EGYPTIAN MISSILE BASES

HAARETZ WRITES: "ISRAEL WILL FIRMLY DEMAND THAT THE MISSILE POSITIONS ERECTED BY THE EGYPTIAN ARMY IN SINAI BE DISMANTLED BEFORE THE IDF EVACUATES THE CANAL WEST BANK-- SO SAID OFFICIAL CIRCLES IN REACTION TO NEWSWEEK REPORT. ISRAELI SOURCES SAID THAT IF IN FACT EGYPT HAS ERECTED SUCH BASES, THIS WILL BE IN VIOLATION OF THE TROOP SEPARATION AGREEMENT. THE AGREEMENT, IT SHOULD

BE RECALLED, PROVIDES THAT NO BATTERIES CAN BE ERECTED EAST OF THE CANAL AND THAT BATTERIES WEST OF THE CANAL MUST BE SET BACK BEYOND THE RANGE OF IDF FORCES. EGYPT MIGHT CLAIM THESE ARE EMPTY SITES. ISRAEL HOWEVER, WILL TAKE THIS TO MEAN THAT CAIRO INTENDS TO VIOLATE THE AGREEMENT IN FUTURE."

STATUS OF JERUSALEM

HAARETZ CARRIES INTERVIEW WITH VATICAN'S SPOKESMAN AND INTER ALIA HIS STATEMENT THAT INTERNATIONALIZATION OF JERUSALEM, SUPPORTED BY THE VATICAN IN THE PAST, IS NO LONGER REALISTIC. PRESSED TO ELABORATE ON POPE'S STATEMENT (DEC 21) REGARDING 'LEGITIMATE ASPIRATION OF PALESTINIAN NATION,' SPOKESMAN IS QUOTED AS SAYING THIS RELATED TO HUMANITARIAN AND NORMAL LIVING CONDITIONS RATHER THAN POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS.

GROMYKO'S TALKS IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENTS, REPORTING ON GROMYKO'S TALKS IN WASHINGTON, SUGGEST THAT TALKS FOCUSED ON MID EAS AS WELL AS SUPERPOWER RELATIONS. DAVAR (NEUMAN) REMARKS: "THIS TRIP COULD BE TERMED AS 'THE LAST CHANCE TRIP'... BREZHNEV HAS TIED HIS FATE TO THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 TEL AV 00659 02 OF 02 051222Z

POLICY OF DETENTE WITH NIXON. CONFESSING ITS FAILURE WOULD BE TANTAMOUNT TO A CONFESSION OF THE FAILURE OF HIS REGIME.... BREZHNEV SENT GROMYKO TO WASHINGTON TO TALK WITH PRESIDENT NIXON AND SECRETARY KISSINGER TO DETERMINE AT WHAT PRICE HE CAN SAVE THE DETENTE... AND HIS REGIME."

US BUDGET

MAARIV CORRESPONDENT IN WASHINGTON REMARKS: "A CAREFUL EXAMINATION OF THE US BUDGET SHOWS THAT IN THE PROPOSAL RELATING TO MILITARY AID TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES, NO ALLOWANCE FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL HAS BEEN MADE... IT SEEMS THAT BECAUSE OF THE DELAY IN SUBMITTING (ISRAEL'S REQUEST), THE US BUDGET DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL THE CLAUSES RELATING TO MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID TO ISRAEL."

DAVAR CORRESPONDENT IN WASHINGTON NOTES:

"ISRAEL REQUESTED CLARIFICATIONS FROM THE US ADMINISTRATION REGARDING THE PROPOSAL ON ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL... THE BUDGET PROPOSAL MENTIONS MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL IN A SUM DOLS 1.4 M. LOWER THAN THE FIGURE APPROVED BY CONGRESS... THE EXPLANATORY NOTE ATTACHED TO THE BUDGET INDICATES THE POSSIBILITY OF (AN INTENTION) TO LINK POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

TO MILITARY ASSISTANCE..."

MOSS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMISTICE, POW, ARMED FORCES, PRESS COMMENTS, MUTUAL FORCE WITHDRAWALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TELAV00659
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740254/aaaabyjg.tel
Line Count: 279
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 FEB 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 FEB 2002 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <26 NOV 2002 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEDIA REACTION - PRESS REVIEW FEB 5 (23/74) SUMMARY: US EFFORTS TO PROMOTE ISRAELI-SYRIAN
TAGS: PFOR, XF, IS, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005